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TUESDAY
OCTOBER 20, 1953

George Comacho, head of the European services of BBC, called on me this morning to discuss European integration movements.

Nelson Slater stopped in and gave me a bottle of vodka and a tin of caviar.

We had lunch at the Canadian Embassy in the new residence on Rue du Faubourg St. Honoré. This house formerly belonged to the old Comte de Fels, who died last year in his nineties, and it was purchased by the Canadians from his daughter the Duchess de la Rochefoucauld, who had inherited it. It is a magnificent dwelling and has been well furnished by the Canadian Government. There is a courtyard, that ^{can} contain about thirty automobiles, and a large garden.

George Vanier told me to my sorrow that he is being retired at the end of this year. I think both Pauline and himself are extremely loath to go, though George is philosophical about it and says a younger man should be given the opportunity to replace him. He is 65 and she is 55. He lost a leg during the first World War and seems always in considerable pain. He has been a perfect Acting Doyen for the Diplomatic Corps in Paris for a long time, although the Papal Nuncio is the official Doyen. His association with the French Government has lasted for fourteen years, beginning as Minister and later as the Canadian representative to the French forces in North Africa, and he has been in Paris continuously as Ambassador since January 22, 1944. They are an ~~very~~ unusual couple and much loved in France.

The Baumgartners, Mendes-France, the Jacques Rueffs, and a lot of other people were there. I had a talk with Wilfrid, who believes that France will never enjoy stability unless there are constitutional changes which will give the Executive greater authority.

Teddy White came to see me this afternoon. He has an ~~in~~ inquiring mind, and we discussed what concessions might be made on the western and on the Soviet

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side to alleviate existing tensions. He believed the most appealing thing to the Russians would be to relax some of our controls over East-West trade and to allow the admission of Communist China into the UN -- if necessary, by the United States abstaining from voting -- in return for which the Russians would give the Allies a fairly free hand in Europe including allowing the unification of Germany and the withdrawal of Soviet troops from East Germany, as well as stopping the Indo-China war. He also thinks some agreement should be reached with the Soviets regarding the non-use of atomic bombs on cities.

I went over to see Doug Dillon at five o'clock and he told me what had taken place ~~transpired~~ in London. We also talked over the incident which arose last week over contradictory reporting by the Embassy and this mission on French intentions concerning EDC ratification. We decided that more complete liaison must be established between our services.

E. and I went to the British Embassy this evening to a large reception given by the Harveys and saw lots of friends there.

We dined with Hope and Bunny Carter and went on to an ~~entertaining~~ amusing play, "La Reine Blanche", with the talented and attractive Jacqueline Gauthier in the leading role. It was the ~~romantic~~ story of a Paris concierge's ~~marrying~~ daughter ~~married~~ a negro who shortly thereafter became an African king. He was forced to abdicate because his subjects objected to his having married a white woman. The three acts all take place in the concierge's apartment in Paris and the king never appears.

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